

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANILA 02425 170738Z

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 DHA-02 L-03 H-01 VO-03

SSO-00 SS-15 PRS-01 /039 W

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FM AMEMBASSY MANILA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6108

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USIA WASHDC

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MANILA 2425

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: CASC, PFOR, RP, US, (WIDEMAN, BERNARD)

SUBJECT: GOP EXCLUSION OF BERNARD WIDEMAN

REF: MANILA 2405

1. WIDEMAN HAS PROVIDED EMBASSY WITH COPY OF FEBRUARY 16 REYES LETTER NOTIFYING HIM OF FEBRUARY 18 PUBLIC HEARING ON HIS CASE AND ENCLOSING FORMAL RECOMMENDATIONS OF IMMIGRATION COMMISSION LAW AND INVESTIGATION DIVISION ON WIDEMAN'S REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF STAY. LATTER DOCUMENT WHICH RECOMMENDS AGAINST VISA EXTENSTION, DESCRIBES WIDEMAN AS "UNDESIRABLE ALIEN" AND ACCUSES HIM OF (INTER ALIA) INCITING TO SEDITION, LIBEL, FOMENTING POPULAR DISSENTION, INTERFERENCE IN LABOR PROBLEMS, AND PARTICIPATION IN "ANTI-GOVERNMENT MASS ACTION."

2. INVESTIGATORS' REPORT CITES WIDEMAN PRESENCE AT VARIOUS ANTI-GOP PROTEST ACTIONS (E.G. LASALLE U AND PLAZA MIRANDA DEMONSTRATIONS OF OCTOBER 10 AND 16, 1976) AND REFERS TO NUMEROUS "ANTI-GOVERNMENT ARTICLES" CONTAINING UNFAVORABLE JUDGMENTS, INCLUDING:

A) NOVEMBER 29, 1974 FAR EASTERN ECONOMIC REVIEW
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(FEER) PIECE STATING ANTI-US ARTICLES IN LOCAL PRESS WERE INSPIRED BY MRS. MARCOS AND DESIGNED TO IMPRESS THIRD WORLD AND PRC;

B) JANUARY 16, 1975 (FEER AND PHILIPPINE TIMES)
ARTICLE CLAIMING RESPITE FROM CORRUPTION AND CRIME UNDER MARTIAL LAW DID NOT LAST LONG;

C) MARCH 7, 1975 (FEER) ARTICLE ON MIJARES'

REVELATIONS STATING THEY WOULD MAKE
WATERGATE "LOOK LIKE A DROP IN THE BUCKET";

D) DECEMBER 12, 1975 (FEER) DESCRIPTION OF
MELCHOR'S PURGE, CONCLUDING THAT HE WAS FIRED
DUE DIFFERENCES WITH MRS. MARCOS;

E) APRIL 9, 1976 (FEER) ARTICLE CLAIMING THAT
LOCAL GOV SEC RONO HAD LAUNCHED MRS. MARCOS'
CAMPAIGN FOR SUCCESSION TO PRESIDENCY.

3. FEER SUGAR PIECE CITED REFTTEL, WHICH IS EVIDENTLY
WIDEMAN ARTICLE IN NOVEMBER 26, 1976 ISSUE, IS NOT
MENTIONED IN THESE IMMIGRATION COMMISSION RECOMMENDATIONS.

4. COMMENT: ACCUSATIONS OF PARTICIPATION IN ANTI-
GOVERNMENT MASS ACTION WOULD APPEAR EXPLICABLE BY WIDEMAN
ON GROUNDS THAT HE WAS COVERING LEGITIMATE NEWS EVENTS.
ARTICLES CITED (MOST RECENT OF WHICH IS APRIL 9, 1976
ITEM ON MRS. MARCOS) INDICATE THAT THE REAL CRIME
INVOLVED HERE IS CRITICISM.
SULLIVAN

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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